LOCAL NEWS

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Moulding, Millwork

New Langford Mill Will Employ 200

Zoning Plan Asked

Plans for a several hundred thousand dollar moulding and millwork plant at Langford on Jacklin Road were announced last night by Peter Brotherston, president of Van-Isle Moulding and Millwork Ltd.

He said the plant would give much-needed steady employment to 70 persons immediately and eventually would provide steady jobs for 200 persons.

NO RESTRICTIONS

The plan is contingent on having the property zoned by the provincial regional planning board as an industrial regulated area. Although there are no building restrictions or zoning in Langford now, Mr. Brotherston said he wishes the area zoned for manufacturing so there will be nothing to stop future expansion.

Zoning could create a new badly-needed industrial area for Greater Victoria business expansion.

SUPPORT PROMISED

T. R. Edwards, chairman of the industrial development group of the Colwood and District Chamber of Commerce, said his group will support the zoning plan and the plans to bring industry to Langford.

"We want it zoned so that undesirable industries will not be attracted," he said. "Any industry wishing to locate in the zoned area would have to get provincial government approval first."

PUBLIC MEETING

Officials of the regional planning board said yesterday a public meeting will be held before any rezoning is undertaken.

Last attempt to bring regulations to Langford was strongly protested by residents, but it was more of an attempt to bring in regulations restricting industry and home building rather than zoning to attract industry.

NEW INDUSTRY

Herbert Bruch, MLA for the district, has been working for some time to attract new industry to the area, and the proposed new plant has occupied a great deal of his time.

"It is an opportunity Langford and the chamber have sought for a long time," he said last night. "The area needs industrial development and small industries."

FOUR ACRES

The moulding plant would be located on about four acres on Jacklin Road beside the existing Rock Gas plant and adjacent to the E & N Railway. The property would be leased from the CPR.

It is thought likely that when zoning is considered a larger area along the railway line will be studied for industrial zoning so that other light industries may locate there.

40 MEN

Van-Isle Moulding and Millwork Ltd. now has a plant at Elk Lake employing 40 men. Mr. Brotherston said it is necessary to expand because of a big increase in export business.

The firm specializes in mouldings and finish specified lumber materials for re-manufacturing.

Mr. Edwards said the chamber of commerce "is satisfied this new industry could be a sparkplug for what this area needs—new industries.

No Fatalities

Drivers Take A Bow!

Motor Vehicle Branch officials had a pat on the back for year-end motorists yesterday.

There were no fatal accidents from Dec. 26 to the end of the year, which deputy superintendent Ray Hadfield termed "a very commendable situation."

Final fatality figure for 1958 was 280, far below the 1957 record of 316, but above the 1957 traffic toll of 252.

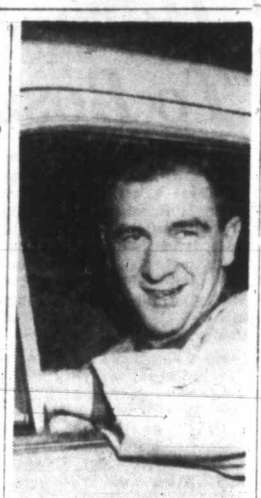
The motor-vehicle branch reported that car registrations passed the 500,000 mark in B.C. in December and now stands at 500,500. It is expected there will be 520,000 registered vehicles on B.C. highways by the end of this year.

Title Hers Now

The wife of the mayor is the mayoress, and doesn't have to be appointed.

That opinion came yesterday from the town clerk of Manchester, Philip S. Dingle, in a letter to the Victoria Chamber of Commerce. It coincided with the views of several aldermen, expressed recently in reply to suggestions that Mrs. Percy B. Scurrah be made mayoress.

A mayoress, Mr. Dingle said, was not appointed under any special act, but "merely assumes the style of mayoress from the time her mayor is elected to his office."



WALT HARRIS

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Seen In Passing

Walt Harris out for a drive and remarking how happy he was that the snow had melted leaving the streets clear. (He is a well-known hockey and lacrosse player. He played lacrosse for the Mann Cup winning New Westminster Salmonbellies and now plays hockey for the Vics. In the past he played hockey for Flin Flon and Port Arthur. He is single and 29.) . . . **Richard Roberts** borrowing a sled to help him deliver papers on his new Colonist route . . . **Alice Jones** painting in her spare time . . . **Jennie Shypanski** beating her friends in canasta . . . **Nellie Cuthbert** bringing whipped cream to a customer . . . **W. S. Fawcett** trying to figure out the identity of the Good Samaritan who shovelled snow from his sidewalks on Monday.

Dredging to Start For New Ferry

Dredging probably will begin next week for the new $300,000 federal government ferry wharf at Sidney, an official of Pacific Piledriving Co. Ltd. said yesterday.

The wharf is to be built by the government for joint use by the Washington State Ferries' service between Sidney and Anacortes and the new B.C. government ferry service to the mainland.

Thomas Blackwood, Pacific Piledriving manager, said driving of piles for the new wharf at the foot of Ocean Avenue probably will begin "in the latter part of this month."

Manslaughter Hearing Date Not Yet Set

No date has so far been set for the preliminary hearing on a charge of manslaughter against a Central Saanich man arising out of the death Dec. 21 of six-year-old Arie Johannes Schut of 6929 Venables Road.

In Central Saanich police court yesterday Magistrate A. I. Thomas remanded Adam Reisch, Veyaness Road, to Jan. 13, when a date will be set for the preliminary trial. Some of the witnesses were not present at the court.

Reisch was charged with the offence Dec. 30 and remanded to yesterday, when it was expected the date would be set for the preliminary hearing.

Arie Schut, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Schut, was shot through the chest Dec. 21. He died shortly afterwards.

Pet Dog, Cat Guard Body of Mistress

The body of Mrs. Bessie G. Randall, 80, Queens Avenue, Sidney, was found in the kitchen of her home with her pets, a mongrel dog and cat, standing "guard," police reported Tuesday.

RCMP Const. Roger Post forced his way into the house, where Mrs. Randall lived alone, by breaking a window after he had been summoned by public health nurse Mrs. D. C. Fink, who had been attending the elderly woman.

Mrs. Fink called for police after she failed to get an answer when she went to see the elderly patient.

Mrs. Randall was born in Saint John, N.B. She was in Whitehorse during the Klondike gold rush and had lived in Barkerville where her husband, the late George Randall, was government agent.

During the First World War, Mrs. Randall was in the ambulance corps in France.

She moved to Sidney from Salt Spring Island several years ago. Her nearest known relatives are in Ottawa.

New Licence Plates on Sale

New licence plates are now on sale and may be placed on vehicles. There is no urgency yet, but motorists on the highway without them after midnight Feb. 28 are liable for prosecution. Making sure to get their's early are Mrs. Robert Juulsen, 2930 Qu'Appelle, left, and Mrs. Edward Hayward. Motor vehicles branch officials expect registrations this year to reach a new high of 520,000.—(Colonist photo.)

Bouquet Given Drivers

Greater Victoria drivers handled themselves so well during Monday's snow conditions that Deputy Police Chief Harry Mercer has ruled they all should be classed as courtesy drivers.

"It would be impossible and unfair to pick out any individual," he said. "Each person who gave a helping hand during Monday's hazardous driving conditions was a courtesy driver."

The courtesy driver campaign to promote safe driving is a co-operative effort by police departments of Greater Victoria, Woodward Stores (Victoria) Ltd., Frigidaire Ltd., the Victoria Hockey Club and The Daily Colonist.

The police observe courtesy drivers who are given two free tickets to a home game of the Victoria Cougars and, later, a certificate signed by the chief of police.

Around the Island

Nine Left Homeless After $30,000 Fire

PARKSVILLE — Nine persons lost their home and almost all their belongings in a $30,000 fire which completely gutted a seven-room seaside dwelling at Parksville, Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Dumas and one child, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Carlson and two children and two other relatives were all away from home when the fire broke out in the living room section of the house.

The blaze was well advanced before a neighbor noticed smoke pouring out of the building and turned in the fire alarm. Parksville volunteer fire fighters arrived on the scene in record time but the flames had got such a good hold they were only able to save a cedar chest and some items of clothing.

The dwelling, known as Stella Maris, was one of the older homes of Parksville. The families have been offered shelter in a nearby auto court until they can furnish a cottage situated on the same property as the main home.

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DUNCAN—The meeting of Duncan city council was an occasion of presentations, congratulations and praise.

Rev. Brian T. Paige presented a Bible to the city, "to replace the shabby one which had been used last year." The Bible was the gift of the Ministerial Association of Duncan.

Mayor J. T. Dobson presented plaques to commemorate their services during centennial year to C. R. West, chairman of the centennial committee, and to Harold Whitfield, co-chairman.

In addition, to Mr. Whitfield, an Indian sweater was presented by Norman Joe, representing the Cowichan Indian Band.

Sworn in by Police Magistrate Col. A. C. Sutton were Alderman R. K. Cairns, Alderman James H. Saunders, and School Trustee Mrs. Isabel L. Tarlton. All were re-elected by acclamation.

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NANAIMO—City council and Vancouver Island Exhibition Board will meet immediately to come to a settlement on the $133,000 debt of the board in the development of Exhibition Park.

Mayor Pete Maffeo hopes to clear up the controversial issue early in the year.

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TOFINO — A 1½-week-old Indian infant, child of Mr. and Mrs. William Ambrose, was in satisfactory condition in Tofino General Hospital after the transport department lifeboat battled a blinding snowstorm and gale winds Monday to go to Hot Springs Cove and return with the child to Tofino. its ailment was not disclosed.

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NANAIMO (CP)—Nanaimo city council has endorsed a provisional budget of $1,691,677 for 1959. Mayor Pete Maffeo, speaking at the new council's inaugural meeting Monday, forecast a year of civic austerity and said works projects will largely depend on committee budgets.

DUNCAN—In his inaugural address at the statutory meeting of Duncan City Council, Mayor James T. Dobson said the city tax rate would remain the same this year, despite the fact the city is growing rapidly.

"In 1958 our building permits reached an all-time high of $673,384," he said. "Our assessed value is now approximately $7,500,000."

Mayor Dobson appointed the following committees: Finance, Alderman J. J. Kerrone and Alderman S. H. Saunders; fire wardens, same; Central V.I. Health Unit, Alderman R. K. Cairns; V.I. Union Library, Ald. Saunders.

Community Centre Association, Ald. Saunders; social assistance, Ald. Saunders; agricultural society, Ald. Kerrone; King's Daughters' Hospital, Ald. Saunders; civil defence, Ald. Cairns.

Public works, Ald. Kerrone, Saunders, Cairns; parks and gardens, Ald. Saunders, Cairns. The first named of each committee is the chairman.

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DUNCAN — Councillor D. C. Morton, chairman of public works, told a meeting of North Cowichan council that two senior members of the Chemainus Chamber of Commerce had subjected Perry Ross, superintendent of public works, to "obscene abuse" on a street in Chemainus recently.

"These two men launched their attack on Mr. Ross without any proper cause," Councillor Morton said. "It seems that they thought sanding of streets had not been done soon enough after the recent storm. I investigated and found that this complaint was unfounded."

Other member of the public works committee, Councillor G. C. Smith of Chemainus, supported Councillor Morton's contention that complaints of any kind should be directed to councillors, who have to answer for any neglect or supposed neglect of duty.

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PORT ALBERNI—Judge L. Arnold Hanna, who has been "swearing in" officers for Port Alberni council for over a dozen years, travelled snow-covered roads from Nanaimo to officiate at the inauguration of three re-elected aldermen here. Aldermen J. R. Dalton, William Goddard and Jack Perry took the oath of office.

Judge Hanna was accompanied by Mrs. Hanna and they were welcomed by Mayor Loran Jordon at the ceremonies in city hall and at the civic banquet which followed.

Mayor Jordon, in his address at the dinner, declared that he could foresee no drastic changes in council policy during the coming year.

He said he would not attempt as he had last year to predict what will be done during 1959.

"Our intentions were good but unforeseen circumstances arose which prevented certain expenditures."

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NANAIMO — Chamber of Commerce will elect seven directors at a meeting here tonight at 6 p.m. A new president will be chosen from the 16-man directorate.

DUNCAN—Councillor Donald C. Morton was appointed deputy reeve of North Cowichan Municipality at the statutory meeting Monday.

Committees appointed included:

Finance committee, J. S. Dyke, Anthony Staples. Fire committee, J. S. Dyke, chairman; A. Staples, deputy chairman; chiefs of all the municipal brigades, assisting fire marshal and the building inspector, I. R. D. Graham.

Parks, cemetery and sanitation, G. C. Smith and J. S. Dyke. Police and traffic, A. Staples. Civil defence, A. Staples and G. C. Smith.

Representatives of council to other public organizations: Central Vancouver Island Library, J. G. Pinson and alternate, Councillor D. C. Morton. Vancouver Island Health Unit, G. C. Smith, alternate, A. Staples. Agriculture, D. C. Morton; King's Daughters' Hospital, A. Staples. Chemainus Hospital, G. C. Smith.

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Completion of the Gulf Islands electrification program, begun 10 years ago, is expected by the end of 1959 when all 11 major islands in the group will be served by the B.C. Power Commision, BCPC general manager R. C. McMordie said yesterday.

He said work is ready to proceed on the electrification of Thetis and Kuper Islands and surveys are being made on two other islands.

Future planning on power sources, he said, will be greatly affected by the results of the International Joint Commission meetings in March, when complete engineering reports are expected to be made available on the development of the Upper Columbia River.

The BCPC recently emphasized its claim to power sites in the Clearwater River system of the Fraser by pointing out that water licence applications on two sites have been in the hands of the water comptroller since June, 1957.

Completion of the Ash River hydro electric development and the Georgia gas turbine plant, both on Vancouver Island and now in the final stages of work, will bring the commission capability from its present 518,000 to more than 609,000 horsepower.

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ALBERNI—Two new aldermen were "sworn in" at ceremonies in Alberni city hall prior to the annual inaugural dinner. Taking part in the rites with Thomas S. Barnett and Gordon S. Lundine, was Ald. Fred Bishop, re-elected.

Magistrate W. E. MacLeod administered the oaths of office.

Ald. Bishop and the two new council members were welcomed by Mayor Jack Luckhurst who named standing committees for the coming year.

Ald. C. M. Blair will continue as chairman of finance with Ald. Barnett and Ald. R. R. Foxcroft.

Other committee chairmen are: Ald. Foxcroft, works; Ald. Barnett, health and welfare; Ald. Lundine, parks and lands; Ald. George McRae, fire and light; Ald. Bishop, water-

An 'Old Master' Is It?

So this is an "old master" muses Bruce Sanson, 13, of 1314 Dallas Road, as he looks over Van Dyck's oil portrait of Charles I. Painting is one of fabulous collection—insured for $500,000—of old masters which began three-week display yesterday at Greater Victoria Art Gallery. Bruce, Central Junior High student, said he and his chums attended show at urging of art teacher.—(Colonist photo.)

Back to Normal

Weather Pulls Quick Change

Victoria's mercurial weather pulled a fast one again yesterday and put the weatherman's nose a bit out of joint but everyone else is quite delighted with the balmy outcome.

Instead of more snow which was predicted for yesterday, Victorians awoke to find the streets wet and reasonably navigable and the white stuff fast disappearing.

The sudden change of pace came as no particular surprise to weatherman William Mackie, who said at the time of the snow forecast that the weather forces presented a "nip and tuck situation, typical of Victoria."

He pointed out that this area is a sort of battleground for the Arctic air masses and the milder Pacific masses.

The bounce back to fairly normal weather brought sighs of relief from street work crews, bus drivers, motorists, January-sale-conscious merchants — practically everyone, in fact.

Slush and puddles of water provided a minor nuisance, particularly in the downtown area. All main streets and most side streets were in good shape by late yesterday with work crews removing snow and clearing drains.

Most put out of all were the young folk whose field day of snowballing and sleigh-riding was cut short by the rain and milder temperatures.

The mercury will maintain its upbeat, according to the weather office, reaching 40 degrees today and around freezing overnight. Today may also bring rain mixed with snow.

Monday's overnight low of 31 above made Victoria Canada's warmest spot.

Up-Island travel conditions were also returning to normal.

The Malahat was reported clear; some roads were still slippery in the Duncan area, and driving was "fair" in the Nanaimo district.

At 7 p.m. RCMP reported ice had formed on the Thetis overpass and underpass, but highway crews sanded the area before any accidents occurred.

Snowfall Claims Another

Two Victoria deaths have now been attributed to the recent four-inch snowfall here—both of elderly men who collapsed Monday after shovelling snow at their homes.

Dead are Capt Alfred Williams, 76, of 1217 Lyall Street, and George O. Carroll, 70, of 2520 Vancouver Street.

Capt. Williams, a former member of the King's Royal Rifles, served in Africa, India and the First World War.

Mr. Carroll, formerly of Cassidy and Nanaimo, had resided here the past 12 years.

Owner Sought Of Small Boat

City police yesterday were seeking the owner of a 14-foot carvel construction boat found drifting in the Inner Harbor.

The boat was secured by PO Fred Breckon of HMCS Malahat, who reported it to police early yesterday morning.

The boat, painted white with red trim, has no number and no oarlocks.

Diplomat Loaned To Ghana

Kenneth Wardroper, a former Duncan man and son-in-law of Ald. Mrs. Lily Wilson, has been lent by the Canadian government to the Ghana government for six months to help set up a foreign service, Mrs. Wilson learned yesterday.

Mr. Wardroper, who ended a term as Canadian consul in Los Angeles last year, will leave for Ghana at the end of January.